

### **ABSTRACT**

Therapeutic composition and method effective for reducing plaque formation and reducing tooth decay. The therapeutic composition is a formulation comprising an antibiotic, preferably a tetracycline, most preferably doxycycline, which optionally has not been chemically modified to eliminate antimicrobial efficacy. The antibiotic is preferably in a liquid vehicle, preferably one that contains at least 35%, most preferably 39% alcohol by volume. The teeth of a mammal are brushed with the therapeutic composition, preferably multiple times daily.